

## News Briefs

### Open House '06

Spangdahlem Air Base officials announced today the base will host an Open House event here July 1 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The one-day Open House will be free and open to the public. Open House project officers are planning to host several static-display aircraft from the U.S. and other air forces. Displays of other USAF assets will also be available, including fire trucks and other military vehicles. Weather permitting, spectators will be able to watch aircraft fly-bys over the runway. There will be no acrobatic demonstrations. Information about event schedules, parking and entrance procedures will be announced once they are available.

### Open House help wanted

The 52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office seeks English, German, French and Luxembourgesch-speaking helpers for the Spangdahlem AB Open House information booth July 1 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Civilians must get prior approval from their supervisors. E-mail [pamela.ander-son@spangdahlem.af.mil](mailto:pamela.ander-son@spangdahlem.af.mil) or call 452-6833 for details.

### No paper April 14

The Eifel Times will not be published the week of April 14 due to the German Easter holiday week. The next edition will be April 21.

### AFAF campaign continues

The Air Force Assistance Fund annual campaign for donations continues through April 30. Contact a unit representative or visit [www.afaf.org](http://www.afaf.org) to donate or for details.

### TMO minimally manned Thursday

The 52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron Traffic Management Office is minimally manned Thursday from 2-4 p.m. Call 1st Lt. Steven Moore at 452-7188 for details.

### Optometry clinic minimally manned

The 52nd Medical Group Optometry Flight will experience a staff shortage now through May. Eye exam appointments will focus predominately on supporting the active-duty warfighting population during this time. Patients needing urgent care should visit the Bitburg Annex hospital. For more information, call the medical appointments line at 452-8333.

### Wing pilot wins Olmsted scholarship

Capt. Sheryl Ott, 22nd Fighter Squadron F-16 pilot, has been selected as an Olmsted Scholar. Captain Ott will receive intense language training starting this summer, and then travel to Jordan where she'll enroll in the University of Amman to earn a master's degree in a field of her choosing.

### Running strong

Bitburg High School's Lady Barons soccer team gave the AFNORTH Lions a run for their money Saturday.

Read "Lions scratch out 1-0 win against soccer Barons," on Page 8.



# Eifel Times

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Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany

[www.spangdahlem.af.mil](http://www.spangdahlem.af.mil)

April 7, 2006



Capt. Joseph Gaona, a pilot assigned to the 23rd Expeditionary Fighter Squadron, Sialuliai Air Base, Lithuania, taxis in from a training flight in October. The 23rdEFS participated in NATO's Baltic Air Policing mission, providing 24-hour security over the skies of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia. The mission was one of many U.S. Air Forces in Europe activities during the past 100 days.

Capt. Tom Crosson

## Special from U.S. Air Forces in Europe

# COMUSAFE recaps first 100 days

By Gen. Tom Hobbins

Commander, U.S. Air Forces in Europe

**RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany (USAFENS)** -- Our U.S. Air Forces in Europe team has encountered a full spectrum of exciting activities and challenges over the past 100 days. From embracing the impending Air Force manpower restructure to the airlift of Rwandan troops to the Darfur region of the Sudan, our command has been actively engaged in the pursuit of process improvement and ensuring mission success.

The last few months have brought us exercises like Anatolian Eagle in Turkey and Shared Accord in Niger. We've deployed approximately 1,600 USAFE Airmen to locations like Iraq and Djibouti in support of the global war on terrorism. Additionally, we've worked with our NATO allies to contribute to activities like flying Baltic Air Policing missions. The list of mission accomplishments goes on and on, but the main message that resonates is our USAFE team, along with our joint, coalition and host-nation partners, are dedicated to ensuring freedom's future across the globe.

While focusing on mission accomplishment, our command has also faced some very challenging manpower issues. From the current force-shaping efforts to the future manpower restructure, we have and will continue to see a lot of "people" and "process" changes on the horizon. Air Force Smart Ops 21 will seek to help us ensure we make the right process improvements while continuing to take care of our people.

As we strive to take care of our people, we have maintained focus on building strong relationships with our host nation and partner countries. USAFE has continued to plan and execute a robust Theater Security Cooperation program that has strengthened our ability to fight cooperatively on a global scale. The dividends are huge, in Operation Iraqi Freedom, 19 of 24 current coalition partners are from the area of responsibility. Our focus is clear; we must continue to invest in the European theater to secure our collective future.

USAFE has a lot to be proud of over the last few months, and I am honored to command and serve with the most experienced, respected and combat-ready forces in the world. I look forward to the next 100 days, and know that we will work to meet any and all challenges together.

### Across USAFE

A snapshot of base key accomplishments in the last three months:

#### Spangdahlem Air Base

- ♦ 52nd Fighter Wing opened European Transportation Training Center; training accessibility increased by 475 percent
- ♦ Participated in Anatolian Eagle exercise
- ♦ Supported NATO's Baltic Air Policing mission
- ♦ Renovated key wing facilities -- command post, fighter squadron briefing rooms, clinic

See **RECAP**, Page 2

## Spangdahlem airlift hub continues growing

### Fully operational, mobility unit juggles unpredictable air flow mission demands

By Louis A. Arana-Barradas  
Air Force Print News

Nine months after setting up shop at this long-time fighter base, the 726th Air Mobility Squadron continues to set up a key airlift hub.

Squadron Airmen are easily handling the sometimes sporadic traffic of heavy transport aircraft that transit through this hilltop base, whether coming from the United States or from some base in Southwest Asia, said Lt. Col. Gary Grape, squadron director of operations.

But it will probably take up to another year to "get all the little tweaks and processes worked out," the colonel said.

"On Oct. 1, we took control of an awesome ramp and great facilities," he said. "But since then, we have been working to turn the facilities into a squadron."

That doesn't mean the squadron of 135 people is idle, the colonel said. Its Airmen receive and launch from two to eight airlift missions a day and handle 50 to 300 passengers a week.

Colonel Grape said the squadron started working at full speed the day it became operational. Now all that's left is doing the little things associated with moving.

"We have all the necessities done," said the colonel. "Now we're just doing the niceties."

The unit and its sister unit, the 723rd AMS at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, assumed the airlift support mission from

Rhein-Main AB, Germany, when it closed Oct. 1. Rhein-Main, located outside Frankfurt, had been famous as the "gateway to Europe" since the end of World War II. It had a big mission.

But when the United States agreed to return the base to Germany, it did not want to give up the capability the base provided the Air Force -- especially since airlift is one of the Air Force's biggest jobs supporting the war on terrorism.

The plan was for Ramstein, about 80 miles southeast of here, to handle two-thirds to three-quarters of the Rhein-Main mission. Spangdahlem would handle the rest, and any overflow. The plan to close Rhein-Main was a long process. But the assumption of the airlift mission was an overnight move.

See **HUB**, Page 2

# RESCON Watch

## CHARLIE

3 DUIs in the Last 30 Days

Days since last DUI: **16**

Rank of last DUI: staff sergeant  
Squadron of last DUI: 52nd SFS

Large unit with best record: 52nd Communications Squadron, 453 days  
Small units with best record: 52nd Medical Support Squadron, 52nd Dental Squadron and 52nd Contracting Squadron: No DUIs

Data Courtesy of the 52nd SFS

When going out, have a plan or call Airmen Against Drunk Driving at 06565-61-2233.



## Recap

Continued from Page 1

### Aviano Air Base

- ♦ 31st Fighter Wing opened new Professional Military Education facility
- ♦ Opened new vehicle maintenance and operations and maintenance facility
- ♦ Completed first-ever combined wing NATO strike evaluation with Lakenheath
- ♦ Hosted First Lady of the United States and Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force visits

### RAF Lakenheath

- ♦ 48th Fighter Wing completed Phase 1 Operational Readiness Exercise
- ♦ Opened a referral management center for central processing of internal and external medical network referrals
- ♦ Opened F-15C Mission Training Center

### RAF Mildenhall

- ♦ 100th Air Refueling Wing opened a new child development center
- ♦ Completed \$9 million communications infrastructure upgrade
- ♦ Implemented \$167,000 in quality of life improvements around the base
- ♦ Created a new dedicated tanker line; increased number of dedicated tankers to each fighter wing by 20 sorties per day

### Ramstein Air Base

- ♦ Ramstein AB named one of top three installations in Air Force
- ♦ 86th Airlift Wing opened a new repair facility; improved propeller repair cycle time by 73 percent
- ♦ Led the way for Ramstein acquisition of a Visual Threat Recognition and Avoidance Trainer
- ♦ 37th Airlift Squadron taught the initial cadre of Iraqi air force crews to fly a C-130
- ♦ 435th Air Base Wing reorganized vehicle operations
- ♦ 435th ABW Contingency Aeromedical Staging Facility moved more than 3,800 patients
- ♦ Installed new youth center gym floor and new gymnastics spring floor; implemented \$1.7 million playground project and child development center revamp
- ♦ Had 33 percent drop in DUIs in December 2005 to March 2006 versus December 2004 to March 2005
- ♦ 703rd Munitions Support Squadron opened a renovated club and dining facility

### Moron Air Base

- ♦ Constructed new \$750,000 fitness and sports center

### Lajes Air Base

- ♦ 65th Air Base Wing supported aircraft moving more than 1.5 million pounds of cargo and more than 5,200 passengers
- ♦ Secured \$437,000 funding to replace and repair base's lightning protection and grounding for air traffic control and landing systems
- ♦ Refueled 826 aircraft

### Incirlik

- ♦ 39th Air Base Wing provided logistics support to Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom moving 10,368 pallets and 18,460 short tons of cargo
- ♦ Provided air refueling support to OEF: 17,689,000 pounds of fuel, 248 sorties

## Emergency data card updates

All Airmen must designate one immediate family member on their emergency data card as the PADD or person authorized to direct disposition of their remains. Airmen can add the PADD information on the Virtual Military Personnel Flight Web site at <https://ww3.afpc.randolph.af.mil/vmpf/> or through the Air Force Portal at [my.af.mil](https://my.af.mil).

# Bitburg students win district-level history contest, prep for nationals

By Crystal Bartels  
Bitburg Middle School

Each year, about 70,000 U.S. stateside and overseas students participate in local National History Day competitions, in which they share information about historical topics they have researched. This year, Team Eifel boasts four district-level winners who competed at the Patrick Henry Village Pavilion March 28-30.

Elizabeth Britt, Bitburg High School senior, wrote the research paper, "View from the mound: The politics behind the overthrow of Napoleon." Kara Elder and Nichole Griep, BHS seniors, produced the documentary, "Truth on the march: Emile Zola taking a stand in the Dreyfus Affair." Savon Bracey, Bitburg Middle School seventh grader, wrote a performance based on the civil rights movement sit-ins in North Carolina, titled, "The Greensboro sit-in: Standing up by sitting down." All four students are set to compete at the national level at the University of Maryland in College Park, Maryland, June 11-15.

Since 1974, National History Day contests have provided U.S. students the opportunity to study and share what they learn about influential historical issues, ideas, people and events. The national contest has become a year-long educational program that fosters academic achievement and intellectual growth in the youth of the United States.

Students choose a topic that relates to a yearly theme and research that topic, emphasizing the use of primary sources. Students create entries and compete in categories such as

research papers, performances, documentaries and exhibits. They acquire historical knowledge and perspective while developing critical thinking and problem-solving skills that can help them analyze information and make effective decisions in their future professional and personal lives.

In Europe, competitions take place at school, district and continental levels. At each level, a group of military and civilian judges are chosen for their interest in education and history. Entries are judged on historical accuracy, clarity of presentation and adherence to the contest theme.

Bitburg Middle and High School students also won second-place honors and the student choice award in their categories. They were:

### Bitburg Middle School

#### Second place, Junior Division

- ♦ Zoë Whitney, eighth grade, Research Paper
- ♦ Emily Kroloff, eighth grade, Individual Exhibit
- ♦ Kaitlyn Miller, Julia Hyatt and Jessica Woronick, sixth grade, Group Performance

#### Student Choice Award

- ♦ Hannah Fowl and Nikki Brown, eighth grade, Group Project

### Bitburg High School

#### Second place, Senior Division

- ♦ Erin Elbel, Liz Jeppesen and Sierra Lawrence, Group Exhibit

## Hub

Continued from Page 1

"We had to do a light-switch transition. We handled missions at Rhein-Main until the end of September. The next day we had to handle missions coming here," Colonel Grape said. "It was a unique opportunity, something very few squadrons in the Air Force have ever gotten."

As the transition took place, a contingency response group -- whose job is to set up aerial port operations -- arrived at the base, set up and started moving transports in and out of the base. At the same time, an advance team from the squadron arrived from Rhein-Main and began setting up shop. Their mission was to get squadron programs established, support agreements hammered out and starting the unit's bed down process.

"We were doing all the administrative stuff needed to run an organization," said Master Sgt. Spike Speigner, superintendent of aircraft services.

He arrived in June with the advance team. That's when the team started to help the 52nd Fighter Wing prepare for the base's new mission and the incoming heavy jets.

"The main thing was to make people aware across the base -- give folks a better picture of what we were bringing to Spangdahlem," said Sergeant Speigner. "There was no mobility experience here. So we stood it up."

Today, the squadron gets total support from the fighter community across the flightline. Colonel Grape said wing leaders do not consider the squadron a tenant unit, but part of the team. He said through dialog, wing leaders now understand the squadron's mission.

The mission, as outlined in the unit's original operations plan, called for it to handle four to six takeoffs or landings each day, the colonel said. That meant handling two or three jets daily -- a gas-



Master Sgt. John E. Lasky

**Tech. Sgt. Kevin O'Dell and Staff Sgt. Griffith Hemphell troubleshoot an aircraft power unit for a C-17 Globemaster III at Spangdahlem Air Base March 22. Sergeant O'Dell is a task expeditor and Sergeant Hemphell is an air hydraulics specialist with the 726th Air Mobility Squadron.**

and-go operation. That is what the squadron's facilities can handle.

But on some days, the squadron handles eight aircraft -- and on other days it gets no aircraft.

"That's one of the problems we're working out -- another one of the growing pains," Colonel Grape said. "But we're trying to establish a C-17 (Globemaster III) hub here."

But to do that, there has to be a more predictable air flow. The unit is working on a plan to maximize the number of aircraft the squadron can handle without having its Airmen sitting idle. To do that requires choreographing what the colonel calls "a ballet of aircraft and people."

"In theory, with an aircraft being on the ground for about four hours -- with our gas-and-go ops -- we could be working two aircraft every four hours," he said. "To do that requires smooth flowing of the missions. So if scheduled properly, we could work six to eight aircraft a day."

Colonel Grape said that's a reachable

goal. But the problem is that because of flying times, maintenance, scheduling and weather problems four or five aircraft could land at the base and want to take off right away.

"We can only work two at a time," the colonels said. "So we're coordinating constantly with Air Mobility Command and downrange trying to keep aircraft spread out in a nice, even, steady flow."

That is a planning process that's hard to do when the players are a continent apart. But, things will get better -- the air flow will stabilize --- with time, he said.

That's a good thing, because the squadron is literally in the bullpen -- it must be ready to handle missions as they come in, said

Master Sgt. Rob Ezell, the superintendent of passenger services and the air terminal operations centers.

"When a plane lands, or something diverts here, we have to react," said. "We know how to do that. So it's not a big setback for us."





Senior Airman Amaani Lyle

## Top Saber Performer

**Name:** Staff Sgt. Mindie Wright  
**Unit:** 52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron  
**Duty title:** Planning and Packaging NCOIC  
**Home town:** Kansas City, Mo.  
**Years in service:** 10  
**Contributions to 52nd Fighter Wing mission success:** If cargo has deployed on or off this base in the last quarter, Sergeant Wright has had a hand in making it move. Since Jan. 1, she distributed 25 truck loads of returning Baltic Air Patrol cargo to our units. The next week, she load-manifested most of the cargo for the 606th Air

Control Squadron deployment. She also load-manifested the 81st Fighter Squadron and 23rd Fighter Squadron Red Flag deployments. She organized 8,000 cubic feet of Keflavik's Brilliant Arrow exercise cargo for trucking to northern Europe. Sergeant Wright was critical to the cargo deployment function, manifesting more than 276 tons of cargo for the wing Phase II exercise. She played a major role in loading and documenting 22 Seavans full of cargo for the 81 FS AEF 1/2 deployment; all while overseeing a packaging shop responsible for packing more than 1,200 line items.

**Off-duty volunteerism and professional development pursuits:** Volunteer member of Cub Scout Pack 161 Den 4, assisting in building projects, building social skills and showing support for the local community

**What do you do for fun?** Reading, bowling and driving through the countryside.

**What do you like most about being stationed here?** This area is one of the most beautiful places that I have been stationed. The culture, people and all the festivals within the area make this an experience that everyone should be able to enjoy.

**What's one thing you'd like to see changed or improved at Spangdahlem?** I would like to see either an indoor or outdoor swimming pool at Spangdahlem. Cascade is the only pool here in the area, and for those who enjoy working out in the water, it would be a great addition. We have personnel who are not able to run, but they might be able to work out in the water. Swimming is a wonderful exercise for cardio and strength training.

## USAFE lauds wing safety award winners

The 52nd Fighter Wing and U.S. Air Forces in Europe recognize the following individuals for their outstanding achievements in 2005.

**Flight safety NCO of the year**

Master Sgt. John Livingston

**Ground safety technician of the year**

Tech. Sgt. Theresa Lex

**Ground safety representatives of the year**

1st Lt. Jonathan Whittaker and Tech. Sgt. Paul Pemberton



## 52nd Mission Support Group

A "priority" salute goes to **Tech. Sgt. Gheric Boyce**, who trains more than 40 military and civilian Sabers in the Spangdahlem and Bitburg Post Offices. His experience ensures the readiness of his people in meeting unique postal mission capabilities, while deploying an average of 20 postal warriors annually in support of Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom. It was BTZ in AZ for **Airman 1st Class Hoa Mai**, who was recently selected for senior airman below the zone while stationed at Luke AFB, Ariz. Give credit where credit is due to **Tye Jacobson** and the **Service Credit Union staff**, who with the Spangdahlem Family Support Center's **Bill Triplett**, go above and beyond for the community. The team implemented the emergency loan program and deployment checking accounts for married members. Ensuring that parting is more sweet than sorrow is **Tech. Sgt. Brian Cook**, who minds that all discharge and retirement actions are promptly coordinated with the family support center.

## 38th Munitions Maintenance Group

A serving of thanks goes to **Senior Airmen Andre Hunter** and **Eric Fleshman**, who prepare more than 100 meals daily in support of the NATO mission. Their tireless dedication to support and protect \$500 million in NATO assets is unparalleled. The training wheels are well oiled for **Tech. Sgt. Chasity DeGroat**, who manages all aspects of initial, refresher and supplemental training programs and maintains

tests, certification evaluations and 14 block tests.

## 52nd Medical Group

Oh baby! **Maj. Jack Swanson** energized the OB/GYN clinic and went the extra mile to work longer hours and provide care that exceeds patient and coworker expectations. A salute is in "order" for **Tech. Sgt. Julie Frostick**, who used her organizational skills to develop a comprehensive self-inspection program for the TRICARE and patient administration flight.

## 52nd Operations Group

Feeling the "need for speed" are 81st Fighter Squadron's **Cpts. Dax Hayes, Christopher Rust** and **Bryan Jandorf**, and **1st Lt. Timothy Manning**, who won the Top Maverick Team trophy at "Hawgsmoke 2006." The 81st FS was the only active-duty team to win an overall weapons event in the bi-annual bombing and tactical gunnery competition for A-10 pilots.

## CDC stars

The following individuals earned scores of 90 percent or higher on their career development course examinations: **Senior Airman Adam Levandowski**, 52nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, 91; **Airman Michael Matticks**, 52nd AMXS, 96; **Airman 1st Class Skyler Burts**, 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron, 97; **Airman Basic Randy Woods**, 52nd Dental Squadron, 90.

*Kudos to all; Team Eifel salutes you!*

(Compiled by Senior Airman Amaani Lyle, 52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office)



Senior Airman Amaani Lyle

## Top Saber Team

**Unit name:** 52nd Aerospace Medicine Squadron Bioenvironmental Engineering Flight

**Unit responsibilities:** The flight directs occupational health, environmental surveillance and radiation protection programs for the 52nd Fighter Wing and its 17 geographically separated units. It advises wing agencies on health risks, emergency response actions and environmental investigations, and enhances force protection by operating the gas mask fit-testing program. The team additionally provides guidance and oversees chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear surveillance training for in-garrison preventive and aerospace medicine teams.

**Number of members:** 16

**How does the team fit into the 52nd Fighter Wing's mission?** It performs risk assessment surveys evaluating systems, facilities and planning documents for chemical, radiological, physical and biological stress factors, which may cause illness, injury, reduced productivity or performance among Air Force personnel in occupational and community environments. The team helps commanders employ risk management principles to meet their mission in peacetime and during contingency operations.

**Team's other contributions throughout the year?** The flight fitted more than 96 percent of the wing with gas masks, which enabled 837 deployers to be cleared in record time during the 2005 Operational Readiness Inspection and contributed to the wing's excellent rating. In October 2005, the Air Force Inspector General team conducted a no-notice radiation inspection for permitted material on base. The flight's documentation ensured compliance with stringent regulations, which resulted in another excellent rating. Lastly, three members deployed to Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar, for 147 days in support of Air and Space Expeditionary Force deployment 7/8. While assigned to the 379th Expeditionary Medical Group, the team's comprehensive water vulnerability report prevented needless non-battle injuries and lost work days during Operation Enduring



### Picture perfect

**Britney Brackenridge**, Spangdahlem School Age Program member, gets a photography pointer from Senior Airman Amaani Lyle, 52nd Fighter Wing public affairs specialist, March 30. The Spangdahlem SAP and Tween Center Annex have joined a nationwide search to identify talented young artists. The competition is part of Boys and Girls Clubs of America's ImageMakers National Photography Contest, designed to encourage artistic skills, cultural enrichment and creativity in the medium of photography.

Jim Dugan



# Task force works to prevent sexual assaults

Awareness education, revamped reporting policies enhance victim support

By Rudi Williams  
American Forces Press Service

**WASHINGTON** -- Sexual assault is one of the most under-reported crimes in the military and in society as a whole, a top defense personnel and readiness official said.

"Some studies indicate that only 5 percent of sexual assaults are reported," said Air Force Brig. Gen. K.C. McClain, who heads the Department of Defense Joint Task Force for Sexual Assault Prevention and Response.

"The highest number we've ever seen is about 35 percent. We don't know where DoD fits in that range, but we're in there somewhere," General McClain said during the DoD Women's History Month observance at the women's memorial March 21.

General McClain is the single point of accountability for DoD sexual assault policy matters. The task force, stood up in October 2004, develops policy and programs to improve prevention efforts, enhance victim support, and increase offender accountability. A DoD directive on the issue was published a year later and an instruction that expands on the directive is expected to be published soon.

One task force goal was to remove barriers that prevent victims from reporting sexual assault, General McClain said.

"Immediately following a sexual assault, there is an overwhelming sense of loss of control and a sense of powerlessness," she said. "For many, the thought of participating in the investigative process is so overwhelming that they choose to get no care rather than to go through that investigative process."

McClain said sexual assault turns the victim's world upside down, and the trauma of being assaulted is a shock from which many victims may never fully recover.

"And the thought that you're going to have to talk to your commander, supervisor, the investigators -- all these people are

going to know," she said. "That's overwhelming for some people, and they don't want to deal with it."

She said some barriers that prevent victims from reporting sexual assault include embarrassment, shame and not wanting anyone to know what happened to them. Sometimes not understanding the process or misconceptions of what's going to happen prevent individuals from coming forward.

To help overcome these barriers to reporting, DoD in 2005 introduced a "restrictive reporting" option to victims of sexual assault. Victims can come forward and seek counseling and other treatment, but can choose not to open a criminal investigation into the assault.

The general said sometimes victims' initial reaction is: "Stop! Leave me alone! I don't want to see anybody! I don't want to do anything!" However, after having time to gather their strength and resources, many victims think about what happened to them and decide to participate in an investigation, General McClain said.

A 2005 report to Congress stated that the number of reported sexual assaults in the military increased by about 40 percent from 2004 to 2005, General McClain said. The 1,700 cases reported in 2004 climbed to 2,374 in 2005, an increase of 674 cases.

"Of those 2,374 reports, 435 were restrictive reporting," she said. "So in a six-month period, in a brand new program that was still being implemented, we still had 435 people who were willing to come forward."

Of those who chose restrictive reports initially, a quarter later changed their minds and allowed investigations to proceed.

"Although we hate that we have any sexual assaults, we do think that these numbers indicate that our programs are working," General McClain said. "We're still in the implementation stage, so we're not claiming victory, because we know

## Sexual Assault Response Coordinator

"If you or someone you know has been assaulted, don't stay silent," said Maj. Joel Elsbury, base SARC.

The SARC serves as the single point of contact for integrating and coordinating sexual assault victim care from an initial report of sexual assault through disposition and resolution of issues related to the victim's health and well-being. For more information, call the SARC Office at 452-7272.

we still have a long ways to go."

Sexual assault prevention training begins in initial training and continues throughout members' careers. It is also incorporated into commanders training.

"Commanders are the key to sexual assault prevention and response," the general said.

Individuals preparing to deploy also receive refresher training on what constitutes sexual assault, how to prevent it, and how to report it while deployed. General McClain noted that the incidence rate of sexual assault in Iraq and Afghanistan is lower than it is across the rest of DoD.

"We don't know for a fact what to attribute that to, but my supposition would be that in the area of operation you're focused on the mission -- quite frankly, staying alive," she said. "You're in a tighter group, a tighter environment with a sense of you're all in this together. We're all family, and we're all working toward the same mission."

## Failure to yield ends in three wrecks, 'speeds too fast' finding for two

By David A. Barker  
52nd Security Forces Squadron

Team Eifel received no new DUIs this past week. There were five major wrecks along with 15 minor wrecks.

People were injured in the first major crash on the B-50 near the Albachmuehle hotel. Driving at speeds too fast for conditions was the major contributor to this accident.

The second major wreck occurred on the K-99 near Spangdahlem when a driver failed to yield.

The third major crash was on the B-50 near Binsfeld. Driving too fast resulted in this vehicle roll over.

Two people were sent to the hospital following major wreck four, which occurred on the L-46 at the A-60 turn off when a driver failed to yield.

Failing to yield also resulted in the last major crash of the week, which happened on A-60 near Wittlich. A local national was cited by the Polizei for this wreck, which sent a servicemember to the hospital.

Team Eifel members were involved in 15 minor wrecks: two from driving too fast, three happened in parking lots, four involved improper backing, four involved inattentive driving, and two involved wildlife.

### Traveling the Eifel

When driving on wet roads, travelers may experience hydroplaning. Hydroplaning happens when the vehicle is riding on the water rather than the road surface. Drivers who discover that their vehicle is hydroplaning must not brake. They should slow down by gently lifting their foot from the accelerator, engage the clutch if driving a manual transmission, and let their vehicles coast until they slow down enough to stop hydroplaning. Sudden moves must be avoided while hydroplaning.

For more information, visit the Road Trip America Web site at [www.roadtripamerica.com](http://www.roadtripamerica.com).

## Online courses prove convenient, but costly education option for many Team Eifel members

By Don Weitz  
52nd Mission Support Squadron  
Education Center

Online courses provide great educational opportunities, and in the past year, Spangdahlem Air Base students completed more than 1,500 distance education courses. However, online study programs have also resulted in 377 failures and withdrawals.

While the withdrawal and failure rate for face-to-face courses here is at about 11 percent annually, the failure and withdrawal rate for online courses is 18 percent. No matter how the numbers are crunched, online college courses produce more blemished academic records and require more student reimbursements to the Air Force assistance than do classroom courses.

Students should consider several issues before enrolling in an online college course. People should take stock of

their ability to work independently and to manage their own time. Many students need the structure of set class meeting times and dates, which is exactly what face-to-face college courses offer.

There is so much flexibility with many online college programs that some students appear to procrastinate to the point where they can never get caught up.

Prospective online course students need to ask themselves whether the online class they are considering is appropriate for them. For example, despite the large number of courses available in foreign languages, science and mathematics, these are subjects that are best suited for face-to-face instruction. Students who are new to online study may find courses in psychology, history and sociology better fit their needs.

Students considering taking an online course during a deployment should make sure they have adequate computer and

Internet access at their deployed location beforehand in order to support their online studies. Those intending to take an online college course during a deployment are strongly encouraged to wait until they reach their deployed destination.

Online college courses have greatly enhanced the opportunities that military students have for getting an education. Problems can be minimized if students take stock of their ability to work independently, exercise judgment when choosing their first online course and hold off enrolling in an online course until they have had a chance to assess the availability of computers and Internet access.

For more information or guidance on adult education courses, call the base education office at 452-6063.

## ADAPT offers anonymous alcohol addiction screening

By Staff Sgt. Khalisha Savage  
52nd Medical Operations Squadron

Alcohol abuse and alcoholism are two of America's most persistent health problems. Half of American adults have a family member with an alcohol problem, and the cost to society is close to \$185 billion each year.

Of the many people in need of treatment for alcohol abuse and dependence, only about one in 10 receive the help they need.

Although most people who drink do so safely, some people are unaware of the negative effects alcohol can have on health, career and life goals. To help people get the facts on alcohol, the Spangdahlem Alcohol, Drug Abuse, Prevention and Treatment Clinic offers free, anonymous education and screening.

Alcohol problems do not discriminate, and it is important to know the facts. Any active-duty member, civilian employee or family member can schedule a screening to learn about alcohol's effect on health and signs of risky drinking or serious problems.

Participants complete a written self-test and have the opportunity to talk with a medical technician or ADAPT health professional. Educational videos, pamphlets, brochures and flyers are available, as well as referrals to local treatment and support resources for those seeking further evaluation.

For more information about the ADAPT program or about alcohol addiction, call the clinic at 452-8321.



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Capt. Mike Cumberworth.....PA deputy  
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Accessing Direct Line

The Direct Line program is a  
way to get answers to questions  
you still have after using your  
chain of command.

Direct Lines of general interest  
will be published in the *Eifel  
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paraphrased for brevity or clarity.  
Submit your Direct Line via:

■ DirectLine@spangdahlem.  
af.mil

■ Mailed to 52nd FW/PA,  
Unit 3680 Box 220, APO AE  
09126

■ To PA in building 23.

■ Concerns may also be sent  
via fax to 452-5254.

Anonymous inputs are  
accepted. To receive a personal  
response you must include your  
name and phone number. Call the  
Eifel Times at 452-5244 for more  
information.



Col. Dave Goldfein

April  
Sortie  
Scoreboard

Aircraft	Goal	Flown	Delta
22FS	498	67	+1
23FS	462	62	+8
81FS	279	51	-5

\*Delta is contract vs. sorties flown to date.

Through April 2

Courtesy of the  
52nd Operations Support Squadron  
Plans and Scheduling Section

# Viewpoint

April 7, 2006

Page 5

## Adaptability

# Innovation: The future depends on it

By Lt. Col. Jim Kirk  
726th Air Mobility Squadron commander

In case you haven't noticed, rapid change has become the norm in our profession. Adaptability is a trait each of us must possess to successfully navigate the turbulent sea of change in which we're sailing. We all have a choice to either hang on to the side of the boat and go wherever it takes us, or to take charge by grabbing the rudder and steering to smoother waters.

We've become accustomed to large-scale reorganization efforts designed to improve our ability to accomplish the mission. Whether driven by the need for efficiency, economic savings or wartime necessity, change normally cascades down from higher levels and brings a variety of results -- sometimes immediate, sometimes long range in nature.

Change doesn't always come from above, however. In the form of innovation, it is something that can positively impact an organization from any level within.

Innovation in its simplest definition is the introduction of something new. It can be in the form of a new idea, method or device. It can evolve from a comment in a staff meeting or in a written recommendation sent anonymously, and can even be fostered through individual participation in volunteer organizations or by serving on

**Change doesn't always come from above, however, and in the form of innovation, it is something that can positively impact an organization from any level within.**

professional committees. Innovation can be expensive and involve technological enhancement across the Air Force, or can be as cost-free as implementing a new process or procedure within a unit.

Another launch pad for innovation is found in the Air Force Innovative Development through Employee Awareness Program.

Reducing operating costs, streamlining processes to save time and manpower, or designing a new piece of equipment to enhance the mission can all bring monetary rewards to creative individuals while increasing an organization's effectiveness. Over the past five years, Airmen innovators of all ranks and career fields have earned cash rewards of up to \$10,000 for often-simple ideas that have saved the Air Force millions of dollars.

## Direct Lines

### Enrichment program

**Comment:** *I am concerned about the enrichment program for toddlers that was going to be offered at Bitburg Annex. I was told a month ago that the program would start at the end of August, however, I was more recently informed that there would be no program due to a lack of staffing.*

*My questions are:*

*Why has there been no advertising for the positions needed to staff the program? If there is a high demand for the program, why aren't more steps being taken to make the program available?*

*Why was the program schedule Monday and Friday or Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday? In the interest of community, the children would be better served attending classes Monday, Wednesday and Friday or Tuesday and Thursday.*

*Also, why are the 2-year-old children separated from the 3-year-olds? I have the same question regarding children ages 4 and 5.*

**Reply:** Thanks for giving me the chance to explain the way ahead for this important program.

We did not advertise positions

because of a budget-driven, command-wide hiring restriction placed on civilian personnel. The resulting lack of staff forced us to temporarily suspend the entire program, a tough but necessary decision.

When the part-day enrichment program was in session, they were held on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays to minimize holiday closures, primarily Mondays. This past summer, we added the Monday and Friday 2-year-old program to accommodate the large waiting list for the three-day program. Most parents were pleased to have a two-day option, even though there were some closures due to holidays.

The 2-year-olds are separated from the 3-year-olds because of different child-to-staff ratios and curriculum needs; this is directed by Air Force regulations. The 2-year-old enrichment classroom is designed to support the developmental needs of toddlers. As children in those classes turn 3, we accommodate their needs for more complex materials and activities and look toward transition to the preschool program as space is available. The 2-year-old PDE program is unique to Bitburg because most Air Force bases are not able to provide such a program.

I recently did a walk through of the wing's child development center and youth programs facilities. More than the facilities, which the staff members have brightened through aggressive self-help projects, I was extremely impressed by the obvious love and concern for our children expressed by our CDC caregivers. The Saber team is incredibly blessed by these selfless professionals.

Thank you for providing me an opportunity to say thank you to them and pledge my continued support for all our youth programs.

### Gortex liners

**Comment:** *I've seen quite a number of folks lately coming from and traveling to downrange locations sporting both the new Army Camouflage Uniform and Desert Combat Uniforms. I'm wondering why it appears OK to wear the fleece Gortex jacket liner as a coat while in these uniforms.*

*Since my element issues individual equipment, we are also tasked with informing people of proper wear. Consequently, I know that "underthings" should not be worn as "overthings." This is a jacket liner -- not a jacket itself.*

The IDEA program is endorsed by the Secretary of the Air Force to encourage creative thinking at all levels and to foster continuous process improvement, smarter economics and increased productivity. More information about the Air Force IDEA program can be found in Air Force Policy Directive 38-4 and AFI 38-401, which also prescribes innovation incentives in both cash and non-cash award categories and details the Exemplary Innovator of the Year award.

"Never before in history has innovation offered the promise of so much to so many in so short a time," said Microsoft's Bill Gates.

I believe this is especially true in our talent-loaded Air Force of today as we seek smarter ways to operate. It's clearly evident in our newly incorporated business practices like Business Process Re-engineering, Lean, and Six Sigma -- initiatives geared toward innovative improvement under the Air Force Smart Operations for the 21st Century program. I don't endorse change for the sake of change, but I strongly encourage innovation in my squadron from permanent party members as well as from TDY augmentees here for only a short time. The benefits are limitless to the Air Force and might even bring well-deserved recognition or a prestigious monetary prize to those who strive to make a difference.

*I have heard many comments from my customers on this issue because of my position. Since the liner covers the offending person's name, rank and service designation, people feel uncomfortable addressing the infraction directly to the offenders. Clarification from the top would be most welcomed.*

**Reply:** Thank you for allowing me to address this issue. You are absolutely correct that per Air Force uniform policy 36-2903, Airmen are not permitted to wear the fleece liner as an outer garment.

Therefore, it is everyone's responsibility to both adhere to the policy and enforce the policy by addressing Air Force personnel in direct violation.

As you may well know, Spangdahlem has become a hub for deploying personnel with the addition of the mobility mission, and we have Army deployers who transit our base.

Under Department of the Army policy, Soldiers are allowed to wear the fleece liner as an outer garment.

Thanks again for submitting your question regarding the proper wear of the fleece jacket liner.





## Community Mailbox

Submit "Community Mailbox" advertisements 10 days before the desired publication date to [publicity@spangdahlem.af.mil](mailto:publicity@spangdahlem.af.mil).



### Correction: SES registration

Spangdahlem Elementary School kindergarten registration takes place April 17-21 from 7 a.m. to noon and 1:30-4 p.m. Also, Sure Start program applications are available in the main office. For details, call Cheryl Varnado at 452-6881 or 452-6170.

### NAF sidewalk sale

The Non-Appropriated Fund sidewalk sale takes place Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Spangdahlem AB fitness center. Merchandise from 52nd Services Squadron facilities will be marked down to cost or below.

### Special Olympics vols needed

Volunteers ages 15 and older are needed to assist athletes at the annual Kaiserslautern Special Olympics Spring Games May 3. Assistants must be available from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. E-mail [larry\\_zani@compuserve.com](mailto:larry_zani@compuserve.com) for details.

### Bitburg Community Center

- ♦ Team Eifel members can get their face painted Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 6-7 p.m. in building 2012.

- ♦ Hertz Bingo takes place April 18 at 6 p.m. Cost is \$1 per card.

### Pet care volunteers needed

The 52nd Services Squadron Pet Spa seeks volunteers to help walk and feed animals from today through April 16. Call 452-9362 or e-mail [melissa.edgell@spangdahlem.af.mil](mailto:melissa.edgell@spangdahlem.af.mil) for details.

### Talent show

The 2006 USAFE Regional Youth Talent contest takes place Thursday at 6 p.m. in the Spangdahlem AB theater. The show is free for Team Eifel members.

### Summer day camp

Registration deadline is April 30 for Spangdahlem AB and Bitburg Annex School Age Program Summer Day Camps. The events take place June 19 through Aug. 25 for students in kindergarten through grade eight. A special elite summer program is offered at the Spangdahlem AB Youth Center for ages

12-14. Costs are based on family incomes. Call 452-7546 for details.

### Closed for Easter

- ♦ Both branches of the Community Bank are closed April 14-17. The ATMs will be available for use.
- ♦ The Spangdahlem AB Library is closed Easter Sunday.

### Bitburg High School

- ♦ The North Central Accreditation evaluation team visits BHS April 19-21 to assess the school's education program. A parents meeting about the team's visit takes place April 20 at 10 a.m. in the school. The Team Eifel community is invited to attend the evaluation team's assessment briefing April 21 at 3:15 p.m. in the school. Call 452-9202 for details.

### Internet and bicycle safety

- ♦ A briefing about youth Internet safety takes place April 22 from 9-11 a.m. in Spangdahlem Middle School. People interested in attending should e-mail [barbara.triplett@eu.dodea.edu](mailto:barbara.triplett@eu.dodea.edu) or [sennie.smith@eu.dodea.edu](mailto:sennie.smith@eu.dodea.edu) to reserve seats.

- ♦ A free bicycle rodeo for Team Eifel youth, sponsored by the Eifel Riders Club, takes place April 22 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Spangdahlem Middle School. The event offers riding lessons, emphasizes bicycling safety and the proper wear of safety equipment. Volunteers are needed. Call Tech. Sgt. Douglas Quinones at 452-6733 for details.

### Block party

The Month of the Military Child Block Party takes place April 22 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Spangdahlem AB fitness center. Free activities include games, art activities, a bouncy castle, a military working dog demonstration and more. The event also features information about youth safety, medical care and activities. Volunteers are needed. Call Lynn Luria at 452-9491 for details.

### LAN party

A free LAN party sponsored by the 52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron takes place April 22 from 10 a.m. to

midnight on Otto-Folman Strasse, Landscheid. Participants should bring their own 220v computers, monitors, equipment and game copies. Tables, chairs, switches, CAT6 cables and Gigabit networking are provided. Call Staff Sgt. Brian Cartwright at 452-7141 or Tech. Sgt. Nathan Nielsen at 452-6965 for details.

### Relationship enhancement

The Family Support Center workshop "Romance is the key" takes place April 29-30 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Bitburg Annex FSC, building 2002. Call 452-6422 for details.

### Library contest

The USAFE Library Services book-mark design contest accepts entries now through April 30. USAFE-based school students should design bookmarks expressing the theme "Change your world @ your library." Visit [www.usafe.libraries.org](http://www.usafe.libraries.org) for more information.

### Database class

A class on library research databases takes place May 17 at 6 p.m. in the base education center, building 192. Call Raquel Santos at 452-9055 for details.

### Auto shop closed

The 52nd Services Squadron Auto Hobby Shop, located on Spangdahlem AB, is closed April 15 through May 15. The auto hobby shop in Bitburg Annex building 83 is open for self-help repairs weekdays from 4-7 p.m. and weekends from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. It's also open for vehicle turn-in weekdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., mechanical services weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., detailing services weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and towing services each Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 452-6841 for details.

### Gaming club

Community gaming takes place the first and third Saturday of each month at noon in the Brick House, starting April 15. Minimum age is 10 years old. Call 452-7381 for more information.

## Easter Services

### Spangdahlem AB Chapel Catholic

- ♦ April 14, Good Friday, 6 p.m.

- ♦ April 15, 8 p.m.

- ♦ April 16, 8:30 a.m.; religious education, 9:45 a.m.

### Protestant

- ♦ April 13, 7 p.m.

- ♦ April 16, 10:30 a.m., Traditional; 1 p.m., Korean;

- 5 p.m., Sunday Night Live

### Bitburg Annex Chapel Catholic

- ♦ April 13, 6 p.m.

- ♦ April, 11:30 a.m.

### Protestant

- ♦ April 14, 7 p.m.

- ♦ April 16, 8:15 a.m., Liturgical; 9:30 a.m., Contemporary; 1 p.m., Gospel



Because information is not enough...

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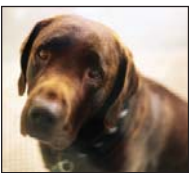
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## Der Markt

### Free classifieds policy and submission deadlines

Der Markt is for the personal resale of items by military and civilian employees and their families. Items such as advertisements for rental property won't be published due to funded paper restraints. Ads should be 35 words or less and customers are limited to no more than two ads per week. Ads must be typed or printed legibly and turned into the public affairs office, building 23, at least **10 days before the desired date of publication**. Ads can also be e-mailed to [publicity@spangdahlem.af.mil](mailto:publicity@spangdahlem.af.mil) or sent via fax to 452-5254. Having ads in by deadline does not guarantee publication. Ads for services generating regular income will not be published. The ads must include the sponsor's name and telephone number. Ads not meeting these requirements, including those exceeding the designated word limits, will not be printed. The *Eifel Times* staff reserves the right to edit ads.



## Out and About

To check event schedules, call the ticket hotline or the tourist office of the town in which the event takes place. Call the German telephone information office at 11833 for tourist office telephone numbers.

♦ The annual Bitburger beer festival continues on weekends now through April 15. It's located in a festival tent on Bitburg Flugplatz. The band Surprise performs at 7 p.m. tonight and the Cologne band De Rauber performs German music Saturday at 7 p.m. Entry is 5 euro tonight and 11 euro Saturday. The festival ends April 15 with a surprise event at 7 p.m. People must arrange for transportation if they consume alcohol at the event.

♦ Thomas Schwab & Band perform German classics Saturday at 8 p.m. in the Bitburg Beda Haus cultural center. For more information or tickets, call the ticket hotline at 06534-9499894.

♦ The exhibition, "Smiling Jesus Christ," is featured at an international art show that continues through April 30 in Himmerod Abbey. The event is open Tuesday through Saturday from 2-5 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

♦ Trier's annual Easter market takes place today through Sunday in the city's main market square. Some city shops are open for the event Sunday from 1-6 p.m.

♦ Visit flea markets Sunday in front of the Bitburg Toom market; at the Trier Messepark fairgrounds, along the Zeltingen Mosel shore; in front of the Mayen Kaufland market; at the Idar-Oberstein Vollmersbach fairgrounds; in the Hermeskeil market square; in front of the Wiesbaden WalMart store, on Mainzer Strasse; and in front of the Saarbruecken Hela Center.

♦ An art exhibition by Markus Guthoerl is on display now through April 20 in the Speicher Arteform gallery. The exhibition is open weekdays from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information, call 06562-974994.

Here comes Peter Cottontail ...

# German Christians celebrate Easter holiday week April 13-16

By Iris Reiff  
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

When the full moon appears in the sky for the first time after the beginning of spring, it is time to celebrate Easter on the following Sunday. For Christians throughout the world, Easter week comprises the holiest days of the year.

Gruendonnerstag, or Green Thursday, four days before Easter, also played a role in early rural customs although it is not a church holiday. This day commemorates the Last Supper Jesus celebrated with his disciples.

Good Friday is characterized by a feeling of sadness and mourning everywhere. It is a very important and serious day, since it is the day on which Christians remember Christ's death on the cross. Services of devotion at the Stations of the Cross are held. Catholic churches do not ring their bells from Green Thursday until Easter, and sometimes the children are told that the bells have been sent to the Pope in Rome for consecration.

It has become a tradition that the children walk through town with Good Friday Rattles, wooden noise-makers of various kinds -- which are supposed to replace the ringing of the bells, calling Christians for worship.

Along with the traditional Easter walk or outing, the giving of Easter eggs and recently, also presents, has become a main feature of the feast. Parents give their children colored, hard-boiled and marzipan eggs, chocolate Easter bunnies and more.

Usually the treats are hidden in the house and if weather allows, in the garden, usually in little baskets. With excitement, the children will search for them on the morning of Easter Sunday. They are told that the Easter bunny has brought them.

The Easter bunny can be seen everywhere at this time -- on greeting cards, which people send off to friends and relatives,



Staff Sgt. Jennifer Lindsey

Easter marks the end of the time of fasting during which eggs and meats were forbidden. Brightly colored eggs are an ancient sign of fertility and a symbol of Spring.

on advertisements or as decorations in the house. Where do these Easter customs come from? Well, the origin of the Easter egg custom is not fully known. One theory for it is that around Easter time, the household had plenty of eggs handy -- the hens began to lay eggs again in spring.

The custom of the Easter bunny hiding Easter eggs traces back to the year 1682. Rabbits occurred in connection with other Easter customs, because they have their litters at this time and so they may appear more often in people's gardens to nibble on the fresh greens.

In the 19th century, the rabbit, similar to Peter Cottontail in the United States, became popular as the bearer of Easter presents.

## Movies

The following movie listings are for today through April 20. Times and movies are subject to change. For more information, call 06565-61-9441 or 452-9441. For movie synopses, visit [www.aafes.com/ems/default.asp](http://www.aafes.com/ems/default.asp).

### Spangdahlem Skyline

**Today**  
*Big Momma's House 2 (PG-13, 7 p.m.)*  
FBI special agent Malcolm Turner must go undercover as Big Momma to capture his former partner's murderer.

*Running Scared (R, 9:30 p.m.)*  
Two 10-year-old boys acquire a mob gun with which a cop was shot. One of the boys' fathers tries to recover the weapon before the mob finds out it's missing.

**Saturday**  
*Running Scared (7 p.m.)*  
*Underworld: Evolution (R, 9:30 p.m.)*  
Selene, a vampire heroine, and Michael, a Lycan hybrid, try to unlock the secrets of their bloodlines. Their forbidden love takes them into the battle to end all immortal wars.

**Sunday**  
*Big Momma's House 2 (4 p.m.)*  
*Underworld: Evolution (7 p.m.)*

Closed Monday through Wednesday

**Thursday**  
*2006 USAFE Talent Show, 6 p.m. Free Entry*

**April 14**  
*Nanny McPhee (PG, 7 p.m.)*  
A new nanny enters the household of the recently widowed Mr. Brown and attempts to tame his seven exceedingly ill-behaved children.

*16 Blocks (PG-13, 9:30 p.m.)*  
A troubled New York police officer is forced to take a down-on-his-luck witness 16 blocks from the police station, although no one wants the duo to make it.

**April 15**  
*Nanny McPhee (7 p.m.)*  
*Annapolis (PG-13, 9:30 p.m.)*  
A young man from the wrong side of the tracks is accepted to the Naval Academy, but once there he is not sure he measures up.

**April 16**  
*Nanny McPhee (4 p.m.)*

*16 Blocks (7 p.m.)*

**April 17**  
*Annapolis (7 p.m.)*

**April 18**  
*16 Blocks (7 p.m.)*

Closed April 19-20

### Bitburg Castle

**Today**  
*Tristan & Isolde (PG-13, 7 p.m.)*  
English knight Tristan wins the hand of the daughter of the Irish king, but the love threatens the truce between their countries.

*Freedomland (R, 9:30 p.m.)*  
A white woman blames an African-American man for her son's death, but a reporter and a detective think otherwise.

**Saturday**  
*Glory Bound (PG, 7 p.m.)*  
The story of how the Texas Western basketball team, featuring the first African-American starting lineup, won the 1966 NCAA basketball tournament title.

*Tristan & Isolde (9:30 p.m.)*

**Sunday**  
*Glory Road (4 p.m.)*

*Freedomland (7 p.m.)*

Closed Monday and Tuesday

**Wednesday**  
*Tristan & Isolde (7 p.m.)*

**Thursday**  
*Freedomland (7 p.m.)*

**April 14**  
*Big Momma's House 2 (7 p.m.)*

*Underworld: Evolution (9:30 p.m.)*

**April 15**  
*Underworld: Evolution (7 p.m.)*

*Running Scared (9:30 p.m.)*

**April 16**  
*Big Momma's House 2 (4 p.m.)*

*Running Scared (7 p.m.)*

Closed April 17-18

**April 19**  
*Underworld: Evolution (7 p.m.)*

**April 20**  
*Big Momma's House 2 (7 p.m.)*



## Sports Briefs

### Men's softball tryouts

Men's varsity softball tryouts continue today through Sunday, starting at 4 p.m., for active duty, family members and Defense Department employees. Call Tech. Sgt. Mike Kliss at 452-6733 or Staff Sgt. Bo Brewer at 452-6887 for details.

### Women's softball tryouts

Tryouts for the women's varsity softball team take place Monday through April 21. All players interested in trying out are highly encouraged to attend weekly practices at the Spangdahlem AB fitness center from 9-11 a.m. Saturdays. Call Senior Master Sgt. Duane Haun at 452-6831 for details.

### Varsity soccer meetings

A men's varsity soccer team meeting takes place Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. at the Eifel Mountain Golf Course grill. E-mail [steven.haro@spangdahlem.af.mil](mailto:steven.haro@spangdahlem.af.mil) or call 452-4250 for details.

### Running shoe classes

A class designed to improve running techniques and to help Team Eifel members choose the best running shoes based on foot analysis takes place Thursday from 3:30-4:30 p.m., April 20 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. and April 27 from 4-5 p.m. in the Health and Wellness Center, located in Spangdahlem AB building 130. Call 452-9355 for details or to register.

### Putt-putt golf event

The Bunny Lane putt-putt golf event takes place April 14 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Spangdahlem AB Army and Air Force Exchange Service Real Sports and Power Zone, located across from the base community center. Age groups play at the following times: 4 and younger from 11 a.m. to noon; ages 5-7 from noon to 1 p.m.; and ages 8-11 from 1-2 p.m. Grand prize winners get Easter baskets, and first through third-place winners get ribbons.

### Softball coaches meeting

Women's softball coaches meet April 19 at 3 p.m. in the Spangdahlem AB fitness center conference room. Call Mark Warner at 452-6496 for details.

### Youth baseball

A mandatory Start Smart youth baseball program meeting for parents of children ages 3-5 interested in playing takes place April 20 at 6 p.m. in the Spangdahlem AB Youth Center, building 427. Smart Start baseball helps parents teach their children the basics of the sport. Call 452-7546 for more information.

### Barons track meet

The Bitburg High School Barons track team competes April 22 at Bitburg stadium. Teams from Ramstein, Brussels and Baumholder take part in the meet, which starts at 8:30 a.m. Volunteers are needed. See Coach Brian Bent on the field at 8 a.m. or e-mail [brian.bent@eu.dodea.edu](mailto:brian.bent@eu.dodea.edu) for more information.

### Youth baseball event

Pitch, Hit & Run, a free baseball competition for youth ages 7-14, takes place April 22 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Registration begins at 10 a.m. Youth compete in pitching, hitting and running events. Trophies are awarded in a variety of age categories. Call Randall Greenfield at 452-7546 for details.

### Golf tournament

The Air Force Sergeants Association Golf Tournament takes place May 5 at the Lietzenhoff Golf Club in Burbach, Germany. The event tees off with a shotgun start at 8 a.m. in a four-player scramble format. Cost to play is 35 euro per person. Call Master Sgt. Boyd Middlebrook at 452-6047 for details.



**Single slam**  
Bitburg High School senior Ashley Kazimer, daughter of Tech. Sgts. Karyn and Joseph Kazimer of the 606th Air Control Squadron and 702nd Munitions Support Squadron, respectively, makes a base hit against Baumholder High School during a softball game here Saturday. The Bitburg Barons lost their first game 9-6 and won their second game 8-3.

Capt. Tom Crosson

## Spang fitness center scores Air Force five-star recognition

By Mark Warner  
52nd Services Squadron

Officials recently confirmed Skelton Memorial Fitness Center's commitment to excellence by honoring the Spangdahlem Air Base facility with the Air Force Fitness Center Five-Star Recognition Program award.

Col. Dave Goldfein, 52nd Fighter Wing commander, formally presented the plaque recognizing the outstanding accomplishment to the center's staff March 27.

"I get to talk with all levels of (U.S. Air Forces in Europe) leadership, and the one thing I always hear is the Skelton Memorial Fitness Center is a cut above the rest," Colonel Goldfein said. "It's easy to earn a five-star award with a recently constructed facility, but to garner this honor with this building is a testament to the excellence of the staff here at the center."

The award was a direct result of the dedicated staff, who oversee an average of 1,200 customers daily.

"Our people make it happen," said Mark Geairn, facility director. "We overcame so much to win this award; an outdated facility, minimum manning due to deployments and limited funding."

### Skelton Memorial Fitness Center

The Spangdahlem AB fitness center is open every Monday through Friday from 4:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. and Saturdays, Sundays and holidays from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

The Bitburg Annex Ed O'Connor Conditioning Center is available 24 hours to annex residents with access cards. Residents can apply for access cards at the Spangdahlem AB fitness center.

For information about the base fitness center services, call 452-6634 or 6635.

The Air Force-level program annually recognizes fitness centers that excel in five areas: operations, programs, training, facilities and customer service. Fitness centers must achieve 90 percent or higher of the total point value for each category to qualify. The Skelton Memorial Fitness Center is the only USAFE facility to win the five-star rating this year.

## Lions scratch out 1-0 win against soccer Barons

By Ashley Sandau  
Bitburg High School

The rain stopped and the sun came out over Bitburg Saturday just in time for the Bitburg Barons girls soccer team to compete against the AFNORTH Lions in a home game.

Although the Barons put forth great effort, it was not enough to beat the Lions team, who scored its only goal in the first few minutes of the game, leading the team to a 1-0 victory.

The Lions started the game in high gear, taking the Bitburg girls by surprise, as they were off to a slow start. As AFNORTH head coach Greg Blankenship said, the Lions "had a good sense of the game; they wanted it."

As the end of the first half neared, the Barons began to step up.

"We had some excellent punts from keeper Jennica Botonis, and (center midfielder) Sidnei Banks controlled our mid-field with her amazing footwork," said Bitburg head coach Sharon Krol. The Barons had practiced the "fake out" moves during the past few weeks.

As the game continued past halftime, the Barons worked hard for a goal.

"We definitely picked it up in the second half," Ms. Botonis said.

The team had good throw-ins, much



Marylee Fary

Lions player dribbles the ball downfield as, from left, Lady Barons Ashley Sandau, Amanda Arp and Sidnei Banks work to gain control of the ball.

better communication and "a good mid-field attack this half," coach Krol said.

The Barons had some nice shots on goal from Ms. Banks and left forward Amanda Arp. At one point in the game, even sweeper Jackie Ventrice dribbled all the way up the field and tried for a goal. Despite the Lady Barons' effort, at game's end, the score remained 1-0 in the Lions' favor.

"I was very impressed with the attitude of our team," said Barons coach Claire Williams.

"Our team has worked hard this season

on teamwork, and it showed in the game — we maintained good sportsmanship throughout," coach Krol said.

The AFNORTH coaches were pleased with their team, observing that the Lions used good passes and nice teamwork.

"It was a pleasure to see them play," said Lion's assistant coach Vickie Blankenship, who congratulated the team's key player, center midfielder Katrina Smith. The goal was scored by the Lions' Tauree Blankenship.

The Barons take on the Ramstein Royals Wednesday.